

until after a certain individual found responsible by the local department for indicated or unsubstantiated child abuse has been found guilty of certain criminal charges, unsuccessfully appealed the finding of the local department, or failed to exercise certain appeal rights; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the central registry and information regarding child abuse and neglect investigations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 5-701(d) and 5-714(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 5-701(i) and (o) and 5-714(d) and (e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Family Law

Section 5-701(o-1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Family Law

5-701.

(d) (1) **["Central]** EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, "CENTRAL registry" means any component of the Department's confidential computerized database that contains information regarding child abuse and neglect investigations.

(2) "CENTRAL REGISTRY" DOES NOT INCLUDE A LOCAL DEPARTMENT CASE FILE.

(i) "Identifying information" means the name of:

(1) the child who is alleged to have been abused or neglected;

(2) a member of the household of the child;

(3) a parent or legal guardian of the child; or

(4) an individual suspected of being responsible for abuse or neglect of the child.